Interview Transcript

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Interviewee: Sister Elizabeth Anne Malone
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[00:00:00.00] INTERVIEWER: So let us start by--if you could tell us your full name and your age.

[00:00:23.11] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Do you want my name in religion or my legal name?

[00:00:26.14] INTERVIEWER: You could do both.

[00:00:27.28] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: All right. My legal name is Marilyn Anne Malone, and in religion Sister Elizabeth Anne Malone. And my age is ninety--the big nine oh. [laughs]

[00:00:41.19] INTERVIEWER: Tell us a little bit about where you grew up and your family.

[00:00:46.05] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I grew up in Los Angeles. And my mother--my father died before my brother was born--my mother was carrying him. And I don't--there's fifteen months difference between my brother and me. And that's the brother that I miss so much. I lost him two years ago. But my mother remarried when I was in the seventh grade, and I have two wonderful half-brothers whom I love very much. And I was happy when my mother remarried, because it gave her companionship.

[00:01:23.24] INTERVIEWER: Were you a religious family?

[00:01:25.20] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yes. Before my mother married my step-father we went to different churches. But when she married him we became--we were baptized. I think it must have been my second baptism. I don't really remember. [laughs]. But I was baptized a Catholic and that's when I started Catholic school--in the fifth grade.

[00:01:47.12] INTERVIEWER: What school did you go to?

[00:01:49.03] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I went to Cathedral Chapel here in Los Angeles with the Immaculate Heart Sisters. And then two years--when I went into the seventh grade I went to St. Gregory's and I had the Holy Name Sisters. And in the seventh and eighth grade--and then in high school I went to Catholic Girls High School--or Bishop Conaty, and we had a number of different communities.

[00:02:15.13] INTERVIEWER: So is that were you first met the Sisters of St. Joseph, is at Bishop Conaty?

[00:02:18.27] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yes. Bishop Conaty.

[00:02:22.16] INTERVIEWER: When did you know you wanted to become a Sister?

[00:02:25.02] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I think I knew I wanted to be a Sister shortly--well, during that time when--before I left home, seventh and eighth grade--I mean I was in there in high school--my stepfather had a sister who was a Sister of Mercy. See I was exposed to all kinds of different communities. But I liked the--the word they use now is "charism"--of the Sisters of St. Joseph. I don't know it's changed its name--"unity and reconciliation". I like--that name is all right, it doesn't bother me--but I like--what's the other one--"inclusive love". I like that. I don't know--just take people the way they are and realize this is what God has planned for me right now.

[00:03:16.18] INTERVIEWER: So you had some--exposure to lots of women religious?

[00:03:20.15] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yes.

[00:03:21.06] INTERVIEWER: How did you experience the call yourself?

[00:03:24.01] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: It must have been when I was there at home. My--I went with my little brother Lewis, and we went to Mass--I didn't take him to Mass with me in the morning, because he was still sleeping. But I went to daily Mass. And just having my aunt Sister Eucharia [Sister Mary Eucharia Malone, RSM--aka Sister Joan Dodge, (-2012)] come home--I think that's where it started. I don't think it started when I was, you know, in the grades there before.

[00:03:50.03] INTERVIEWER: So when you were at Bishop Conaty, how did you--how did you decide on the Sisters of St. Joseph as opposed to the others?

[00:03:57.02] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, you know, I used to watch them. They came in a station wagon--they lived up here at the Mount. And they made that long trip every day--because they taught--they were responsible for a section where they had religion, and they had--they taught Latin and they taught math. And I took both of those. And I remember when I wanted to enter, I said, I want to take--my step-father said, "What are you going to take?" I said, "I want to take Latin." He said, "What do you want Latin for?" And I said, "I just do." I didn't want to tell him yet. But I did take the four years of Latin and I've never regretted that.

[00:04:38.21] INTERVIEWER: How did your parents feel about you entering the community?

[00:04:41.11] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: There was no problem because of Sister Eucharia--she paved the way I guess. [smiles]. She was a go-getter. She raised all kinds of money for those mercies.

[00:04:52.08] INTERVIEWER: Do you have any particular memories of Sisters of St. Joseph from when you were in high school? Of particular faculty?

[00:04:57.17] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh. Yes, well I can think of different ones. But the memory I had was when the principal, Father [Nicholas?] asked me--I don't know why they put me up for student body president, but they did. And the Sisters got me--helped me with [this gain]--she taught Dramatics--and I remember not wanting to be, but my friend Mary June [LaRue] who I knew at Cathedral Chapel--she's the one that ran against me. And I remember talking to her, "Oh, Mary June, I don't want this." Anyway I didn't get it, which is good. [laughs]. I didn't really want all that, you know.

[00:05:40.00] INTERVIEWER: [unintelligible]

[00:05:42.05] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: All right--you can take it out.

[00:05:43.20] INTERVIEWER: But the Sisters of St. Joseph must have stood out to you in some way.

[00:05:47.10] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: They stood out to me, yes. I suppose--I don't know--I just liked the way they got along together, and what they did. And I can remember--you know--with my friend Sister Eileen Mary [Connors?]--we entered together. And there was another Sister she liked. And we met the station wagon in the morning--carried their books. I just remember all those things.

[00:06:12.02] INTERVIEWER: What was it like when you entered the community? What do you remember about that?

[00:06:16.16] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: It was so different. Well I guess you just kind of take each day as it comes.

[00:06:22.13] INTERVIEWER: It sounds like maybe it was a little different than you expected?

[00:06:26.26] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I don't think I thought about it exactly like that. I like things that are structured. And maybe that's why it appealed to me.

[00:06:38.28] INTERVIEWER: And how was it to adjust to living in the community?

[00:06:43.27] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, when I was home I had my own room and everything--and when we entered we were in a dormitory--we had curtains and everything. But that didn't seem to bother me too much. I don't--I guess you're young and you take what comes.

[00:06:57.18] INTERVIEWER: Were there ever any moments where you thought, "What have I done?" or were you confirmed [unintelligible]--

[00:07:04.04] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: No, I was always afraid I might get sent home--[laughs]--for doing something wrong maybe, I don't know.

[00:07:12.00] INTERVIEWER: Were you a troublemaker?

[00:07:14.15] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, they call me troublemaker sometimes. But I always seem to skip out in time and don't get it. [laughs]. Out. [laughs].

[00:07:22.26] INTERVIEWER: Are there any--you must have studied at the Mount at that time.

[00:07:25.29] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yes I did. Oh those things were hard, because every Saturday--well after we finished in the novitiate--teachers came to us--but when we left the novitiate with first vows, on Saturday we came up to the Mount on the bus. And it was hard really because we were teaching--and they tried to help us best as they can--the best they could. It wouldn't work now I don't think without a degree and credential. But then it was all right. Children were different then.

[00:08:00.05] INTERVIEWER: So you were teaching and going to school at the same time?

[00:08:02.27] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Same time yes.

[00:08:04.02] INTERVIEWER: What was it like to be a first time teacher?

[00:08:08.08] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh. When I left the novitiate in March, I went up to St. Patrick's in West Oakland. And they were predominantly African-American children, and I had a second grade. Oh, I loved those little people so much. Yes, I liked that very much.

[00:08:26.23] INTERVIEWER: How long did you teach second grade?

[00:08:28.01] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: When I was there the first year I had second. And then I had first--I may--I think that's what--it could be back--the other way--I think I had first and then second. And then from there I went to West--went out to--where did I go from there?

[00:08:48.15] INTERVIEWER: Concord? Queen of All Saints?

[00:08:50.08] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh yes. From there I went to Queen of All Saints in Concord [California]. And when I was there I had third and fourth. And I liked that very much too. We opened that school.

[00:09:01.15] INTERVIEWER: Do you remember when you received the habit?

[00:09:05.21] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yes, I remember.

[00:09:06.24] INTERVIEWER: Well, how did that feel?

[00:09:08.09] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh, I didn't like--I don't like people looking at me too much. I remember walking down the aisle--it was beautiful, the whole ceremony--it was lovely--and all those people. Yeah. I don't know how it affects other Sisters. I don't think there's anybody asked me that before.

[00:09:26.02] INTERVIEWER: For some it seems like a special memory--or a big moment.

[00:09:32.09] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: A happy moment. Well, it was happy, because everybody was so thrilled to see you in the habit.

[00:09:37.23] INTERVIEWER: A real sign of--

[00:09:39.27] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: A real sign. But in later years when I'd be walking with my mother she'd say, "Marilyn, you talk to everybody that comes." I said, "Momma, they just come up to me. I don't talk to them." You can't--I said, "I can't be rude." [laughs].

[00:09:54.01] INTERVIEWER: Yeah. So it sounds like there's a--

[00:09:56.26] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well it was hard for her as I look back on it. She probably didn't like standing. But it wouldn't be too long. But as I tend to sit more myself. [laughs].

[00:10:05.06] INTERVIEWER: So sometimes the habit would draw attention.

[00:10:08.11] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: It would draw attention, yes.

[00:10:11.24] INTERVIEWER: Okay. When you entered religious life, what were your hopes? What did you want to accomplish?

[00:10:24.10] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I just wanted to love God more by serving him.

[00:10:30.17] INTERVIEWER: And did you have ideas about what that would look like, or were you just open?

[00:10:35.20] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I don't tend to look too far ahead I think. I just take what each day gives me.

[00:10:42.19] INTERVIEWER: Do you remember when Vatican II started?

[00:10:48.08] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: All kinds of changes.

[00:10:49.19] INTERVIEWER: Yeah. Tell me about how some of those changes affected you.

[00:10:52.07] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, first thing was the change--they were going to take away the habit. I didn't like that too much. But as that progressed, and I saw that everybody was changing and they told us what was happening back in St. Louis and in the other provinces, we knew it was coming. So well I--we changed. But that first day when I changed was traumatic. But I lived with a Sister and she sewed for me, so we both changed on the same day. [laughs].

[00:11:21.25] INTERVIEWER: Was there a fear of--was there a loss involved, or was it--were you afraid, or why was--what was--why was changing it traumatic?

[00:11:31.21] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I guess taking off all those clothes you felt kind of undressed with the other one. I think that's what it must have been. But after a while, you know, I like it better. [laughs].

[00:11:43.05] INTERVIEWER: There were lots of other changes with Vatican II.

[00:11:45.24] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh from Vatican--we--things weren't so structured as they are--you know they were structured then, but not now any more. We didn't go out at night--we have a budget now--just a lot of little things like that.

[00:12:02.19] INTERVIEWER: What about the liturgy? How did that affect you? Or what did you think of that.

[00:12:08.04] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I'm not one of those big liturgists, but--again I like the Mass--I love to go to Mass.

[00:12:13.26] INTERVIEWER: So did you like changing--you studied Latin--did you like changing from Latin to English?

[00:12:19.02] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh. I don't know why I said that, but I'm glad I took Latin. There are so many times that has come in handy for me. You know with looking at "Jeopardy" and different things--it helps you with questions. I'm just glad. Yeah.

[00:12:35.18] INTERVIEWER: How did community life change after Vatican II?

[00:12:40.02] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, that--you were more free. And you--instead of keeping silence, you know, you tried to keep quiet and be--well I don't know--it was just different. But I--with what I did before it seems to me I was always running around doing something. [laughs]. I don't know.

[00:13:03.05] INTERVIEWER: You were always active--

[00:13:06.14] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Active yes. But I'm not like one of those Sisters--some of them like social justice and all that. I don't care for that. I seem to have had enough to do with my teaching. And when I came--after I left Fres--after I left Concord, I came to Fresno, and that's where I was put in charge of the school. And then when I was--at the end of those six years, Mother Agnes Marie [O'Loughlin (1903-2006] said, "We're thinking of putting you at the Doheny campus to teach Business." Well I liked that, because I love shorthand and typing. That's what I like. So that--but she said, "You have to go out--you have to get a degree. Would you mind going to UCLA to get that?" And, "No, that's all right."

[00:13:55.16] INTERVIEWER: So did you study Business?

[00:13:56.12] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yes. I have an MA in Education, yes.

[00:14:00.25] INTERVIEWER: There's something else I was going to ask you. Oh, from Vatican II and the encouragement to go back to the roots. Was that an opportunity for you to learn more about your history?

[00:14:13.12] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I've never been to Le Puy [France]--and some of those places that the Sisters have been. I don't--I didn't put my name--as I got to be older I didn't want to make that long trip. My family gave me a nice trip at the end of my--I guess it was my fiftieth Jubilee. We went over--but we didn't go--we went to France, but I didn't see Le Puy or Lyon.

[00:14:32.04] INTERVIEWER: Is there anything about the history of the Sisters that you really relate to, or enjoy?

[00:14:45.00] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I don't see how they did it. You know, you see pictures of them in the kitchen and different places--but there again they did the best they could with what they had.

[00:14:55.04] INTERVIEWER: So then you spent most of the rest of your ministry at the Doheny campus.

[00:15:00.10] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: [laughs]. Seems like I've been there a long time--forty-some years. But I loved it there.

[00:15:07.12] INTERVIEWER: What was your first job there?

[00:15:08.29] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: My first job--I came to teach in the Business department. And it was so small then--really small. But it has grown to this University--yeah.

[00:15:18.17] INTERVIEWER: What were your students like?

[00:15:21.17] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well they came from the nearby high--they were the students who were not accepted, and they needed a little more help with the--you know, with their basic--reading and math mainly--those were the two weak things that we found. And I know when I was advising and they would come and it showed that they needed reading development and math. I said, "Why don't you go to a community college and get these first, and then come back where you won't have to spend all the money?" I don't know whether the powers-that-be were pleased with that, but to me it seemed that they should do that, because it wouldn't count toward their degree. But I loved working with those girls.

[00:16:03.29] INTERVIEWER: Do you--have you heard stories, or do you know of things they've accomplished as alums?

[00:16:11.15] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Hm. I keep in--the ones that I get way back in the beginning I have not kept in touch with them. But with the--like I'm thinking of little Annie [Fegundes]--she was in the nursing program, and she communicates with me. She lives up in Fresno, and now she's a nurse practitioner. But--I never taught Annie but we became friends.

[00:16:40.26] INTERVIEWER: What is it do you think about teaching and education that really captures you?

[00:16:46.06] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Hm. The idea that if you are helping them to learn more they will do better in the world, and they may have--I always think of this money thing--they'll be able to--have a better position. And I said, "If you had this opportunity you can't waste it. You have to study." Yeah.

[00:17:07.04] INTERVIEWER: You went--you were the--how long had Doheny campus been open when you were there?

[00:17:14.07] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Let me think. I came there in '67 I think. I think it opened in '62. It hadn't been open very long.

[00:17:24.23] INTERVIEWER: Were you aware then of some of the challenges of launching a new campus?

[00:17:31.00] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I don't know. They didn't trickle down to me too much. [laughs]. I don't think so.

[00:17:38.09] INTERVIEWER: Did you witness the growth of the campus?

[00:17:41.08] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh, I've seen it grow. Yes. So many things. Yeah. And one time the chair in the Business department--he had met some Sister--we didn't have money to go over to Trade Tech for the machines--and so they fixed it up with Trade Tech kind of a thing that where we'd go over there and use their machines and they'd get credit. But those girls did not like going over there--they didn't like walking. It wasn't too long a walk, but they didn't like going over there. I do remember that.

[00:18:12.21] INTERVIEWER: And do you remember--it sounds like then, you're in downtown Los Angeles, you see what's happening in the city.

[00:18:17.04] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh those high rises, yes. So much progress they've made. Hope we don't have an earthquake. Oh I guess they're going to move, but I don't know--please God we don't.

[00:18:29.23] INTERVIEWER: Were you there during the riots [Watts Riots April 1965]?

[00:18:32.14] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I was there at the Watts Riots, yes I was. And that was kind of scary. Yeah. We stayed right inside the gates.

[00:18:40.22] INTERVIEWER: What was that like for the students, do you remember?

[00:18:42.27] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh I don't remember any students being there during that time. I guess they were sent home in time, or they hadn't come. I don't remember any students.

[00:18:51.12] INTERVIEWER: But and then--how did you feel about being there in the neighborhood at that time--and the time that followed?

[00:18:59.24] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I'm not afraid of that neighborhood. Some people are. But I remember going down to Union to get my hair cut and I was telling my niece. "I don't want you doing that again, coming home on that Twenty-third Street!" I said, "Liz, it's really safe. There's no problem." I'm not afraid that way. But I've been afraid somebody might break into that Doheny house--or the Stimson House where I've been the last couple of years. I'm afraid of somebody getting in at night more.

[00:19:30.02] INTERVIEWER: Did you live in the Mansion--the Doheny Mansion?

[00:19:33.14] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: All that time. [laughs]. I thank you Lord for my nice accommodation. [laughs].

[00:19:41.07] INTERVIEWER: Who were some of the Sisters you lived with?

[00:19:43.13] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh. Most of them are dead. Sister Patricia Clare [Mullin (1908-2002)]--she's gone. Sister Margaret Clare [Borchard (1911-2001)] is gone. [Sister] Mary Helen [Pettid?, (1901-1993)] is gone. My good friend [Sister] Roseann [Bromham??, (-1990)] is gone. Oh so many have gone. But--some came up here--yeah--most of them did.

[00:20:07.12] INTERVIEWER: Do you have any special memories from living in the Mansion?

[00:20:10.24] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: You know they always have this ghost story--the girls say there are ghosts in here. I said, "I've lived here all this time--I've never seen a ghost." I don't believe that. But somebody keeps propagating that--I don't know--I don't think there are any ghosts.

[00:20:26.28] INTERVIEWER: Any special events in the Pompeiian Room?

[00:20:30.15] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh, I remember the filming. And I remember they have to do it over and over again. When I first came I was interested, but then after a while I lost interest.

[00:20:41.09] INTERVIEWER: What were some of the other ministries you had at the Doheny campus? You taught--what else?

[00:20:49.25] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: That's the--oh, I was the Assistant Registrar down there--I remember doing that. And at that time it was right when the computers and all that were coming in. They had a header, and then they had another card for each one of their subjects, and I had to get those in line. And then I had to take them down to the Greyhound station to go up there to--I think it was in Oxnard [California]. I remember that. Yeah.

[00:21:15.06] INTERVIEWER: You must have seen a lot of changes in technology--

[00:21:18.07] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I've seen a lot of changes, yes I have.

[00:21:20.23] INTERVIEWER: Are there any that surprise you the most?

[00:21:24.00] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I don't know. I always keep thinking this is what's going to be, and I just roll with it I guess. [laughs]. I roll with it--I don't know what else to say.

[00:21:36.14] INTERVIEWER: Are there any stories of any of your Sister friends that you mentioned that you'd like to share--who have already gone to God?

[00:21:45.12] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I went to school with Sister Eileen Mary [Connors?].

I met her at Catholic Girl's High School, and we were both in section 9S1. Right now she's up here--she came a couple of years ago. But she had--she has to have oxygen 24/7. And she's just the opposite of the way I feel--she likes to go go go. And so--but she can't do that. The other day she said, "Oh I want to see the Getty." I said, "Did you ask them?" And they said yes, but she can't. It's too much for her. Two nurses have to go--one for the oxygen tank, and the other to push her--it's just too much. But I guess--yeah Sister Eileen Mary.

[00:22:30.13] INTERVIEWER: You mentioned some of the other Sisters in the Doheny Mansion. What were some of the roles that they had the Mount?

[00:22:37.07] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: They--like Sister Margaret Clare--I thought of her first. She taught--she didn't have a full time--she was part-time--she taught Children's Literature. And Sister Mary Helen taught History. I remember them in that two year program.

[00:22:54.24] INTERVIEWER: Oh in the AA program--

[00:22:56.23] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: In the AA program, yeah.

[00:22:58.19] INTERVIEWER: Yeah. That was a unique offering, it seems.

[00:23:01.23] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yes, it was.

[00:23:03.03] INTERVIEWER: Yeah. What did you think of that program?

[00:23:06.15] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I liked it very much. I didn't teach Shorthand ever while I was there--I taught Business English and Business Math. But it was really--you know, not advanced math or not--oh their skills--well I did the best that I could.

[00:23:23.05] INTERVIEWER: Did you have other involvements in other CSJ-related ministries in your free time, or--were you all at Doheny?

[00:23:35.28] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: [laughs]. Well, I remember going to different meetings and things, but I--nothing stands out in my mind. I'm happy to stay home. [laughs].

[00:23:44.27] INTERVIEWER: What are you most proud of from your time at the Doheny campus?

[00:23:49.27] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh. Well I suppose it would be--my--trying to have a positive influence on the young women whom I taught.

[00:24:03.00] INTERVIEWER: And how would you do that?

[00:24:04.23] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I don't know. I hope it would carry through in their lives, you know. And I would see them. The big thing that everybody comes back for is that candy on Halloween.

[00:24:13.28] INTERVIEWER: Yeah, tell us about that program.

[00:24:16.25] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I don't know. The Campus Ministry--and they get all this candy donated--and the place is swarming with people. And that's when I see them when they come back with their children. I like to do that.

[00:24:30.23] INTERVIEWER: Do you know when that program started?

[00:24:32.25] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh. I don't know. I don't remember.

[00:24:35.11] INTERVIEWER: But it's been going for some time.

[00:24:36.19] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Some time, yeah.

[00:24:38.00] INTERVIEWER: And families come--

[00:24:38.15] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: --families come with their babies, yes. [smiles]. And we have all this candy to pass out. [laughs]. I like that.

[00:24:49.01] INTERVIEWER: What are--so I asked you what you are most proud of, but what are you most proud of as a--for your community--that you feel good about?

[00:24:58.13] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh. I am so proud that the Mount has grown the way it has. And now we're "University"--at first I didn't like that--but now I do. Mount Saint Mary's University.

[00:25:08.19] INTERVIEWER: What does that say to you about it?

[00:25:11.00] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: It says to me that we're really--I don't--I know you have to have the advanced degrees--but it shows me that we're right in that mainstream. I don't know--I really like that.

[00:25:22.09] INTERVIEWER: Have you been able to stay involved in the Mount at all?

[00:25:26.02] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I was volunteering in the Computer Lab while I was over at Stimson--two mornings a week. And then I stopped that, I think last year was the last time I did it. Yes.

[00:25:41.03] INTERVIEWER: Has it been a transition for you to move here to Carondelet Center?

[00:25:45.08] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I wanted to come up here. I knew it was time. Because nobody was in the house. And I was afraid I would fall in that kitchen, and I'd be lying there until they came home for dinner.

[00:25:56.25] INTERVIEWER: So it's been a good move.

[00:25:59.07] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: It's been a good move for me. I know some Sisters are not anxious about coming, but I've been very happy I came.

[00:26:06.28] INTERVIEWER: What is your feeling about passing the charism on to your lay partners? Or have you seen that--

[00:26:17.25] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I think it's wonderful and beautiful that they have accepted that. And that word "charism"--you know, it was "unity and reconciliation", and then "inclusive love"--it's been all kinds of things. To me it's just the duty to the present moment, to the best of my ability. That's what I try to live.

[00:26:38.03] INTERVIEWER: How do you think about religious life in the future? Do you have hopes or anxieties about it?

[00:26:45.00] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I don't know. They're doing everything they can to attract young women. But I don't know how it's going to end. We have two programs going, yes.

[00:26:58.27] INTERVIEWER: Do you worry about it, or?

[00:27:02.11] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: No. I don't worry. I think God will take care of us.

[00:27:07.26] INTERVIEWER: What is it about the--you said "unifying love" or the "unity in reconciliation"--

[00:27:13.16] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, you know. I think you have to love everybody. But you don't have to like them. But you have to be civil and nice to them. That's what that means to me.

[00:27:26.02] INTERVIEWER: And what has brought you the most joy in your life as a Sister?

[00:27:31.19] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: The most joy--well, you know, they tell me how lucky I am at my age to have the health that I do. And I look at the rest of the people in my group, and they tell me I'm the best preserved. [laughs]. So maybe I--that may not be the best thing to say, but they tell me--and I know my mother must have had good genes, because I haven't had anything bad happen to me. And we're all up here, except for one Sister's out on a mission. But she--and that's all right for her--that's what she likes--but the rest of us are here, the ones that are left. We entered twenty-four, and we're seven now.

[00:28:20.20] INTERVIEWER: Are there any of those from your class that you remember that you--any stories?

[00:28:28.16] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: You mean--with--

[00:28:30.03] INTERVIEWER: --with your original--

[00:28:31.11] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: See, that story business. Some people get to the table and tell all these stories. I'm not a story person. [laughs]. I don't know why I don't tell stories. I don't think I tell them well. [laughs]. Some people do it and everybody's just hanging there listening.

[00:28:51.10] INTERVIEWER: Everybody has a--

[00:28:51.22] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Everybody has something--

[00:28:53.04] INTERVIEWER: --a different thing. I mean you can think of it too as a memory rather than a story.

[00:28:57.15] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: A memory.

[00:28:58.29] INTERVIEWER: Yeah. Any special memories from your ministry-- at Doheny--relationships--

[00:29:09.10] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh. You know I think of [Mark Ellen Eddy] and Catherine Whitman--they were in the Business Department with me--and they know I like In-n-Out [burger restaurant]. Well when it came time for my birthday they called me. But that would be more for the faculty than students.

[00:29:26.05] INTERVIEWER: So they would take you to In-n-Out?

[00:29:28.15] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: They'd take me to In-n-Out. [laughs].

[00:29:31.29] INTERVIEWER: That's great. [laughs].

[00:29:34.21] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Now I like Panera.

[00:29:37.28] INTERVIEWER: Yeah?

[00:29:38.17] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I like Panera.

[00:29:40.24] INTERVIEWER: Do you get to go out and about much?

[00:29:43.07] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I don't any more. I still have my license. But my car that I drove--I had a little red Toyota Corolla--I think it had 145 thousand--all driven by me--but they--I turned it in when I came. And I think Sister sold it. But I liked that little car. It's a '92. They told me it was a special one. In red. [laughs].

[00:30:07.11] INTERVIEWER: Red is good. [laughs]. Was there anything else that you reflected on in these

questions that I haven't asked you about?

[00:30:17.00] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I think you've asked me everything you could possibly ask. [all laugh]. I don't think so. Thank you for asking me that.

[00:30:23.29] INTERVIEWER: Yeah, of course. Kelby, do you have any--

[00:30:26.08] KELBY THWAITS: Yeah. I just wanted to ask you about your education--your--part of it you learned because you were told to--with Business. What was it about Business that drew you to it, other than that you had to learn it so you could teach it?

[00:30:40.25] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, when I was at Conaty, I taught--I was in the Business program--because I wanted to do the four years of Latin, and my stepfather said, "No, I want you to take Business. Sister Eucharia took Business." She was the Mercy nun, my aunt. So I took the Latin. I didn't have any study periods. But I did take the Business for him--the shorthand and the typing and--I can't remember what else we took, but that satisfied him. Maybe he was afraid something would happen and he wouldn't--because he said [unintelligible]--I don't know if they were afraid of money, or what it was for higher education. Probably that's what it was. They didn't talk finances when I was there.

[00:31:27.18] KELBY THWAITS: Did you end up enjoying Business later?

[00:31:31.02] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh, I like--yeah--I love teaching shorthand. But see, I had--at St. Mary's Academy--I had the cream of the crop. Those students were good there--good English skills--and when I would dictate you know, and they'd transcribe, I had very few mistakes I had to correct. Yeah. If they got the words in the first place. [laughs]. Most of them did. But I like--I don't know why I like that--I like shorthand.

[00:32:00.11] KELBY THWAITS: That's great. I might have seen that '92 Toyota.

[00:32:05.14] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Really?

[00:32:06.19] KELBY THWAITS: How long ago did you turn it in?

[00:32:07.29] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: When I came--when I went--yeah--when I came up here. And I came up here October 24.

[00:32:13.29] KELBY THWAITS: Okay. I've been with the Mount six years. I've seen that car.

[00:32:18.00] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Did you see it?

[00:32:19.05] KELBY THWAITS: Yeah.

[00:32:19.24] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Before the paint job or after?

[00:32:20.17] KELBY THWAITS: I saw. Well, there was a green one.

[00:32:24.22] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: No, this was a red--

[00:32:25.16] KELBY THWAITS: And there was a red one. And I only know--I know the green, and then I know the red. But I don't know about the paint job.

[00:32:31.23] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yeah. The paint job.

[00:32:33.01] KELBY THWAITS: Or maybe I didn't recognize it.

[00:32:34.06] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: And we got it all painted, but they didn't--Sister Marilyn didn't want to pay the two thousand I think for the air conditioning--and I can see that. It's just as well she

didn't get it fixed. I might be driving off of here. But I don't want to take one of the other cars. And it's nice having a driver--and the parking and everything.

[00:32:53.13] KELBY THWAITS: Well that's great. I guess just the last question that I have--so now, that you're here at the Carondelet Center, what is your favorite thing to do--or what's your favorite thing about this new chapter in your life, now that you're here.

[00:33:12.20] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I don't know. I still enjoy going to the Sister's room at night looking at the TV with the Sisters that come. I know I could go to my room--I have a TV in my room--and now they're going to have a Busy Person's Retreat--I told Sister I'd be happy to do that. I liked doing that at Doheny when I was there. Is that more or less what you mean? Or you mean something--yes.

[00:33:41.05] KELBY THWAITS: What do you look forward to here in your days?

[00:33:44.03] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I guess I'm looking forward to when God's going to call me home. [laughs]. You kind of--I think this is the last stamping grounds. [unintelligible] [all laugh].

[00:34:01.25] INTERVIEWER: You know one memory that I heard about you--

[00:34:04.17] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Uh-oh.

[00:34:04.22] INTERVIEWER: --was that you had a regular lunch group at Doheny.

[00:34:07.29] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I'm trying to think who we had at Doheny for lunch.

[00:34:11.26] INTERVIEWER: So Shannon [Shank] told me about this--

[00:34:14.29] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh Shannon. I love Shannon. Yeah. And Chris--her husband.

[00:34:19.17] INTERVIEWER: --and she said that you used to informally meet at the Café every day. And then she got busy, and stopped coming.

[00:34:21.04] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: And she forgot me. [laughs]. I don't remember the every day part. But I was very happy eating with them, yeah.

[00:34:35.04] INTERVIEWER: Sounds like it was a wonderful community--

[00:34:38.12] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I liked it there at Doheny very much. I never was anxious about coming up to--well I couldn't teach up here--I didn't have what they needed. But I was happy at Doheny.

[00:34:52.06] INTERVIEWER: They were happy to have you, and they miss you.

[00:34:55.09] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Thank you very much. I hope so. [laughs].

[00:34:59.14] INTERVIEWER: And they say you are an excellent mind for Business.

[00:35:02.08] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Really? Hope it goes through for my football.

[00:35:06.02] INTERVIEWER: Football?

[00:35:07.20] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: My nephew puts me in the football pool there. Oh I didn't do well last week. I did very poorly. But I have--my niece's husband used to be a Ram--Bill Bain [William Earnest Bain (1952-), former LA Ram offensive lineman]. And he gives me picks. Now sometimes I take them and sometimes I don't.

[00:35:24.15] INTERVIEWER: Do you like football?

[00:35:26.23] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: I like football. [laughs].

[00:35:29.08] KELBY THWAITS: Did you bet on it and you lost money?

[00:35:31.27] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, oh, my nephew puts me in for the twenty-five dollars. I've won a couple of times. If you win you get forty. And he lets me have it. [all laugh].

[00:35:44.12] INTERVIEWER: Will you go to a Rams game?

[00:35:47.16] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, I don't know. Now see, at this point in life in my--I wouldn't think I'd want to go. I'd rather look at it on TV. Yeah. To me that's the prudent thing to do. And I look at those peop--the team that I used to like the best were the Raiders--isn't that terrible? That's who I liked. Then I got away from them. They didn't do well.

[00:36:11.01] INTERVIEWER: Well, you spent some time in Oakland, so--

[00:36:13.10] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yeah, I spent some time in Oakland.

[00:36:18.18] INTERVIEWER: [Director's comments]. And Anne [McElaney-Johnson, MSMU President] thanks you too. She was very excited that you were--

[00:36:52.12] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Was she? Well you know--
and I thought of that. My first thing would be no, because this isn't what I like to do. But I thought for Anne and for Jackie [Jacqueline Powers Doud, former MSMU president] before her, I've got to do this. Yeah.

[00:37:04.10] INTERVIEWER: It's a real gift to everyone. It really is.

[00:37:07.09] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Well, and what you're going to do with it--if it's going to influence people--yeah. Thank you.

[00:37:12.12] INTERVIEWER: [Director's comments].

[00:37:28.16] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: And I'm glad you recognized "BJJ"--that was my license plate--BJJ071. I think I was attached to that car. [laughs].

[00:37:39.03] KELBY THWAITS: It sounds like it, by the way you talk about it.

[00:37:41.05] INTERVIEWER: I get attached too.

[00:37:44.20] KELBY THWAITS: Did you ever drive over the speed limit? I've got to know.

[00:37:45.19] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Oh yeah--lots of times. [laughs].

[00:37:48.27] KELBY THWAITS: I love cars, and I love driving, so I understand where you are with that.

[00:37:53.03] INTERVIEWER: You grew up in Los Angeles?

[00:37:54.27] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: Yes.

[00:37:55.15] INTERVIEWER: So you're a driver.

[00:37:57.02] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: But I never--my uncle tried to teach me--before I entered. But they had that rationing on--they had a car--gas rationing, is what it was. And I said, "Oh Bobby, don't do it for me. I won't be driving in the convent. Don't use up that gas. I don't have to know." I forget who taught me to drive.

[00:38:18.13] KELBY THWAITS: So did you learn after the gas shortage?

[00:38:21.03] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: After I entered. When we could drive--when I went up to Fresno to be--you know, to be in charge--they told me, "That way you won't have to ask another Sister to drive you." So I was a good choice.

[00:38:35.20] KELBY THWAITS: And then you got hooked.

[00:38:37.24] SISTER ELIZABETH ANNE MALONE: And then I got hooked. [laughs].

[00:38:38.23] KELBY THWAITS: [Director's comments].

[00:40:04.08] End of interview.

Interview Index

Interview Date: September 28, 2016
Interviewee: Sister Elizabeth Anne Malone
Interviewer: Shannon Green, Director, CSJ Institute, Mount Saint Mary's University; Kelby Thwaits, Instructor, Film and Television, Mount Saint Mary's University; Mary Trunk, Instructor, Film and Television, Mount Saint Mary's University.
Location: [Carondelet Center]
Transcription Date: 12/08/2016
Transcribed By: Nancy Steinmann

[00:00:00.00] Introduction. Name and age--birth name Marilyn Anne Malone, religious name Sister Elizabeth Anne Malone. Age 90.

[00:00:43.00] Early life and family. Born Los Angeles, California. One brother younger, two half brothers. Started Cathedral Chapel Catholic school in fifth grade with Immaculate Heart Sisters. St. Gregory's starting seventh grade with Holy Name Sisters. High school at Bishop Conaty High School with various Sisters.

[00:02:16.19] Early religious life. Meeting Sisters of St. Joseph at Bishop Conaty. Charism of CSJs--"inclusive love". Aunt Sister [Mary] Eucharia [Malone], RSM (Sisters of Mercy)--stepfather's sister. Choosing Sisters of St. Joseph. Learning Latin. Family reaction to vocation. Sr. Eucharia.

[00:04:52.28] Memories of CSJs in high school. Principal Father Nicholas [??]. Running for student body President. Sister Eileen Mary [Connors?].

[00:06:12.10] Entering religious life. Dormitory experience. Fear of being sent home.

[00:07:24.15] Studying at Mount during novitiate. Differences in teaching and children then and now. Early teaching experience--St. Patrick's in West Oakland teaching first and second grade. Teaching third and fourth grades at Queen of All Saints in Concord, California.

[00:09:02.13] Receiving the habit. Habit drawing attention of others.

[00:10:12.00] Hopes and expectations for religious life.

[00:10:45.21] Vatican II. Changes to habit. Less structure. Changes to liturgy. Changes to community life--more freedom. Rule of silence--quiet instead of silence. Social justice.

[00:13:18.11] Teaching in Fresno, California six years. Mother Agnes Marie Moving to Doheny campus to teach Business. Attending UCLA for MA in Education.

[00:14:01.16] Vatican II and going back to roots. Learning history of CSJs.

[00:14:54.11] Ministry at Doheny campus. Teaching Business. Student needs. Accomplishments of alumnae: Annie [Fegundes], nursing student.

[00:16:41.03] Love for teaching and education. Bettering student lives.

[00:17:07.01] Growth of Doheny campus. Walking to Trade Tech to use business machines. Changes to Los Angeles. Watts Riots. Stimson House.

[00:19:30.23] Living in Doheny Mansion. Sister Patricia Clare [Mullin (1908-2002)]. Sister Margaret Clare [Borchard (1911-2001)]. Sister Mary Helen [Pettid?, (1901-1993)]. [Sister] Roseann [Bromham??, (-1990)]. Ghosts in Doheny Mansion. Filming in Pompeiian Room.

[00:20:42.27] Other ministries at Doheny campus. Assistant Registrar. Technological changes.

[00:21:38.27] Stories of other Sisters. Sister Eileen Mary [Connors?]. Sister Margaret Clare Borchard, teacher of children's literature. Sister Mary Helen Pettid, history teacher.

[00:22:53.25] AA program at Doheny. Teaching Business English, Business Math. Proud moments at Doheny. Halloween at Doheny.

[00:24:50.22] Pride in community--growth of Mount. Change to University. Current involvement at Mount--volunteering in computer lab.

[00:25:40.23] Moving to Carondelet Center.

[00:26:08.28] Passing charism to lay partners. Living in present moment. Hopes or anxieties for religious life in the future. Unifying love.

[00:27:26.03] Greatest joy in religious life. Good health.

[00:28:59.17] Other memories. [Mark Ellen Eddy] and Catherine Whitman, business department. Going to In-and-Out Burger and Panera. Stopping driving.

[00:30:12.29] Education--interest in teaching Business. Sister Eucharia (aunt). Teaching shorthand. 1992 Toyota she owned.

[00:32:53.16] Favorite activities at Carondelet Center.

[00:34:02.09] Lunch group at Doheny. Shannon [Shank]. Living at Doheny. Football pools. Niece's husband former LA Ram offensive lineman Bill Bain [William Earnest Bain (1952-)]. Oakland Raiders.

[00:36:15.19] [Director's comments]. Anne McElaney-Johnson, MSMU President. Toyota-license plate BJJ071. Learning to drive--gas rationing.

[00:38:43.18] [Director's comments].

[00:40:04.06] End of interview.